



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Raised Bill No. 6948

LCO No. 4377

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:
(JUD)

AN ACT CONCERNING LOW INTEREST LOANS TO CRIME VICTIMS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 54-210 of the general statutes is repealed and the following
2 is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) The Office of Victim Services or a victim compensation
4 commissioner may order the payment of compensation under this
5 chapter for: (1) Expenses actually and reasonably incurred as a result
6 of the personal injury or death of the victim, provided coverage for the
7 cost of medical care and treatment of a crime victim who does not have
8 medical insurance or who has exhausted coverage under applicable
9 health insurance policies or Medicaid shall be ordered; (2) loss of
10 earning power as a result of total or partial incapacity of such victim;
11 (3) pecuniary loss to the spouse or dependents of the deceased victim,
12 including zero to one per cent loans of up to one hundred thousand
13 dollars, with repayment beginning five years from the date the loan
14 was awarded, provided the family qualifies for compensation as a
15 result of murder or manslaughter of the victim; (4) pecuniary loss to
16 the relatives or dependents of a deceased victim for attendance at court
17 proceedings with respect to the criminal case of the person or persons

18 charged with committing the crime that resulted in the death of the
19 victim; and (5) any other loss, except as set forth in section 54-211,
20 resulting from the personal injury or death of the victim which the
21 Office of Victim Services or a victim compensation commissioner, as
22 the case may be, determines to be reasonable. At the discretion of said
23 office or victim compensation commissioner, there shall be one
24 hundred dollars deductible from the total amount determined by said
25 office or victim compensation commissioner. [Loan funds awarded
26 under subdivision (3) of this subsection shall be used to pay for
27 essential living expenses, directly resulting from the loss of income
28 provided by the deceased victim, or preexisting financial obligations
29 that are not otherwise forgiven or excused.] The Office of the Chief
30 Court Administrator shall establish procedures and forms for the
31 application and repayment of such loans.

32 (b) Payment of compensation under this chapter may be made to a
33 person who is a recipient of public assistance, state-administered
34 general assistance or general assistance for necessary and reasonable
35 expenses related to injuries resulting from a crime and not provided
36 for by the income assistance program in which such person is a
37 participant. Unless required by federal law, no such payment shall be
38 considered an asset for purposes of eligibility for such assistance.

Statement of Purpose:

To enable survivors of homicide victims to take advantage of the low interest loan provision.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]